THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, 4th March 1963.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock. Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Madura Mills, Limited.

* 27 *Q.*—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN (on behalf of SRI J. PONNUSWAMY VILLAVARAYAR) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have taken any shares in the Madura Mills Limited, and, if so, the number of shares taken;

(*b*) the dividend, if any, received by the Government during 1961–62;

(*c*) whether there are any representatives of the Government in the above mill, and, if so, who they are; and

(*d*) the amount of loan, if any, granted to the above mills?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) to (*d*) Government have not subscribed any share capital nor granted any loan to the Madura Mills, Limited.

Bricks

* 28 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the prices of bricks in the City of Madras are high; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) Yes. The price of building bricks has been rising very steeply in Madras City.

(*b*) The Government are considering the question of imposing control over the price and distribution of bricks. They are also taking steps to augment the supply of bricks by setting up two fully automatic modern brick-making plants—one by the Industries Department and the other by the Madras State Housing Board—to meet the requirements of Government Departments and quasi-Government bodies like the State Housing Board.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. Minister tell us, Sir, when these brick-making factories will come up?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : They will come up in about eighteen months.